

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



PRESS RELEASE

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IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

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***Portsmouth to Hold Public Meeting for Bike Lane Additions to Middle St /
Lafayette Rd Corridor***
Public information gathering scheduled for February 12th

PORTSMOUTH, NH – The City of Portsmouth will be hosting a public meeting on Thursday, February 12th, at 7 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers to discuss potential designs for an on-road bicycle route and improved pedestrian connections along and across Lafayette Road and Middle Street. Based on public input received in November and further analysis of traffic patterns and physical conditions of the corridor, the City has been working with the engineering firm Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. to develop three alternative design concepts which will be presented at this time.

The need for safer passageway along Route 1 was identified in the City’s Safe Routes to School Action Plan in 2010 and the recently completed City Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The project, which received funding from a NHDOT Safe Routes to School Grant, will extend from the High School to the downtown and will create a safer and more convenient path for those traveling by bike or foot to the schools, library, and more.

“After receiving such meaningful feedback from our first public meeting, we are looking forward to presenting our ideas for this area and incorporating additional reactions from the public into the final plans,” said Juliet Walker, Transportation Planner, City of Portsmouth. “It is our hope to create a better connected neighborhood and give residents and visitors of all abilities the confidence to bike or walk within the City more frequently. Public collaboration on this

project will help us ensure that neighborhood needs are met while offering options that support our City's walkability and bikability goals and policies.”

The varying design options include a two-way cycle track, buffered and protected bike lanes, or more traditional bike lanes. The City hopes to hear input from existing and potential users of this corridor to determine the best option for the community. Construction is anticipated to begin this Fall.

For more information on this project and Portsmouth's Planning Department, please visit:

- <http://planportsmouth.com/middle-lafayette-bike-ped.html>
- <http://planportsmouth.com/bike-pedestrian.html>
- <http://www.planportsmouth.com/>
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